

# Banner Elk Presbyterian Church

*Celebrating 126 years of commitment to Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior*



*Equipping Saints since 1893*

## **WORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES**

Traditional, with full choir 11:00 a.m.

Sunday School, 9:30 a.m.

## **March 29, 2020**

Rev. Decherd "Deck" Guess, Transitional Pastor

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## CELEBRATION OF THE LORD'S DAY

Fifth Sunday in Lent

March 29, 2020

*Welcome to the house of the Lord. You are encouraged in our time before worship begins to greet friends and to meet the people seated around you, making all people feel welcome in the house of the Lord.*

*(Please silence your cell phones during worship.)*

PRELUDE

CHORAL CALL

CALL TO WORSHIP

Ezekiel 37:3; Psalm 130:7

Leader: O mortal, can these bones live?

**People: Only the Lord God knows.**

Leader: O people, hope in the Lord.

**People: With the Lord there is steadfast love**

Leader: and great power to redeem.

**All: Let us worship God.**

OPENING PRAYER

\*HYMN # 824

*There is a Place of Quiet Rest*

MC AFEE

\*PRAYER OF CONFESSION (*unison*)

**O Lord, if you held our sin against us,  
who could live, who could stand?**

**There is so much that we have done  
that we should not have done;  
even more that we should have done,  
and could have, but did not.**

**We too often think of ourselves first  
and others later, if at all.**

**Even so, you love us;  
still there is forgiveness with you.**

**So, we worship you;  
for you alone, O Lord,  
can save us from death  
and redeem us from our sin.**

**We pray in the name of Jesus Christ,  
the Resurrection and Life. Amen .**

All sing:

Hymnal # 288

**Spirit of the living God  
fall afresh on me.**

**Spirit of the living God  
fall afresh on me.**

**Melt me; mold me;**

**fill me; use me.  
Spirit of the living God  
fall afresh on me.**

#### DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS

Leader: O dry bones, hear the word of the Lord!  
If Jesus Christ dwells in you,  
the Spirit of God will be your life  
and the grace of God will be your righteousness.  
And if the Holy Spirit dwells in you,  
then God, who raised Jesus from the dead,  
will also give life to your mortal bodies.  
Friends, believe this good news of the gospel.

**People: In Jesus Christ we are forgiven, made whole,  
and set free to live a new life in him.  
Thanks be to God!**

### WE ENGAGE THE WORD

ANTHEM

*Creation Will Be at Peace*

J. Paul Williams & Anna Laura Page

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

READING FROM NEW TESTAMENT      John 11:1-46

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

SERMON

“Unsettled”

Rev. Deck Guess

### WE RESPOND TO THE WORD

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND LORD’S PRAYER

Our Father, who art in heaven,  
hallowed be thy name,  
thy kingdom come,  
thy will be done  
on earth as it is in heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread;  
and forgive us our debts,  
as we forgive our debtors;  
and lead us not into temptation,  
but deliver us from evil.  
For thine is the kingdom,  
and the power, and the glory,  
forever. Amen.

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (*unison*)

The Apostle's Creed

Hymnal p. 34

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth;  
and in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,  
who was conceived by the Holy Ghost,  
born of the Virgin Mary,  
suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, dead, and buried.  
He descended to hell.  
The third day he rose again from the dead.  
He ascended into heaven,  
and he is seated on the right hand of the Father.  
He will come again to judge the quick and the dead.  
I believe in the Holy Ghost,  
the holy catholic church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

\*HYMN # 250

*In the Bulb There is a Flower*

PROMISE

RETURNING GOD'S TITHE AND GIVING OF OUR ABUNDANCE

Offertory

\*DOXOLOGY

Hymnal, p. 606

\*PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING AND THE LORD'S PRAYER (*unison*)

**Holy God, giver of life,  
we thank you for raising us up  
and joining us together  
as one people, your people,  
flesh and bone in the body of Christ.  
As you have delivered us from death,  
use our lives to proclaim the good news.  
May these offerings be blessings to others  
and signs of new life in Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

\*HYMN # 821

*My Life Flows On*

HOW CAN I KEEP FROM SINGING

BENEDICTIONS

John 11:25

May the Lord Jesus Christ,  
who is the resurrection and the life,  
bless and keep you in this life  
and the life to come.  
Go in peace to love and serve the Lord,  
In the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.  
Amen.

\*SUNG BENEDICTION RESPONSE

\*POSTLUDE

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\*Congregation please stand, if able

Liturgical Color: Purple

### **Scripture Readings for the Fifth Sunday in Lent**

Ezekiel 37: 1–14

Romans 8: 6–11

Psalms 130

John 11: 1–45

### **Questions for Reflection**

Why did Jesus weep in John 11: 35? Was it out of compassion for Mary and Martha? Out of love for his friend Lazarus? Out of frustration with the people's lack of understanding or faith? Think about someone in your life who is grieving. Find a way to extend to that person the grace and peace of Christ

### **Household Prayer: Morning**

O God, I know that you are the Lord,  
for you gave me my life,  
and caused me to rise this day.  
Put your Spirit within me,  
and let my words and actions  
help others to know  
that you are my Lord and my God. Amen.

### **Household Prayer: Evening**

My soul waits for you, O Lord,  
more than those who watch for morning,  
more than those who watch for morning.  
Help me to sleep this night in peace,  
trusting that you will awaken me;  
through Jesus Christ my Savior. Amen.

Portions of this service and the reflection/household prayers are from Feasting on the Word Worship Companion: Liturgies for Year A, Volume 1 © 2013 Westminster John Knox Press. Used by permission.

## Weekly Opportunities

**Nickel-A-Meal Hunger Relief Offering:** This Sunday, March 29th, would normally be the time for our Nickel-A-Meal collection. As a reminder, the name refers to the practice of placing a nickel in a container each time we sit down for a meal, as a reminder that many go without food. Our offering is combined with other Presbyterian churches to alleviate hunger nearby and throughout the globe. During this time that we are unable to meet on Sundays for worship, please remember to send a check for this offering, along with your regular offering.

**One Great Hour of Sharing:** Since 1949 Presbyterians have joined with millions of other Christians through One Great Hour of Sharing, to share God's love with those in need. Your generous gifts assist those affected by natural disasters, provide food for the hungry and assist to help empower the poor and oppressed. Specifically, gifts to the One Great Hour of Sharing special offering support the following: Presbyterian Disaster Assistance, Presbyterian Hunger Program and Self-Development of People. This offering is normally received on Easter Sunday. Please consider sending a donation for this important fund. You may send a check to BEPC with a notation for "One Great Hour of Sharing".

Want to receive our church newsletter and/or weekly updates on events and prayer concerns? You may email the church office at [office@bannerelkpresbyterian.org](mailto:office@bannerelkpresbyterian.org) or call the church office at 828-898-5406. We can put you on the mailing list for newsletters and add you to the email list for weekly updates on events and activities.

Recordings of worship services and other useful information can be found on the church web site at [www.bannerelkpresbyterian.org](http://www.bannerelkpresbyterian.org).

## CHURCH STAFF

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## Our Prayers

*“Out of the depths I cry to you, O Lord. Lord, bear my voice! Let your ears be attentive to the voice of my supplications! O Israel, hope in the Lord! For with the Lord there is steadfast love, and with him is great power to redeem. It is he who will redeem Israel from all its iniquities.” Psalm 130*

- Bill Tate at home with Hospice
- Verleen Gregory at Cannon Hospital with Hospice
- Stewart Stoudemire in assisted living in Pineville, NC
- Sharon Haber awaiting biopsy results
- Marianne Gore and family as they mourn the death of Grover Gore March 3
- Bob Tatje recovering from surgery
- Eddie Flethcer (Katy Fletcher’s son) diagnosed with cancer
- Karen Avery (Katy Fletcher’s daughter) diagnosed with breast cancer
- Ashley Smith recovering from surgery
- Ben Garris with health concerns
- Debi Tornow with health issues
- Tommy Humphrey (Marsha McManus’s brother) who has leukemia
- Those who are home-bound or in assisted living: John Balmer, Lee Council, Irv Fryberger, Marianne Gore, Larry Kennedy, Jean Russell
- Our partner institutions: Arca de Noé (partner church in Guatemala), Lees-McRae College, Grandfather Home for Children (CHA), Cannon Memorial Hospital
- Hui and Gordon Causby, teachers in China
- Hebron Colony & Bethel Colony ministries
- Volunteer Avery
- Those with health concerns: Bob Anderson, George Conklin, Bobby Jennings, Libby McGowan, E.C. Newman, Roxanna Nicholes, Charles Saunders, Tommy Thompson, Bill Wilson, Bill Tate, Erika Deal, Carolyn West, Jeremiah West.

*If you have a prayer concern to include in the bulletin, please communicate it to the church office, preferably via email, by no later than first thing Thursday morning. Always check to ensure the person being considered approves of the inclusion in the bulletin. The pastor will also receive additional prayer concerns before worship each Sunday; please write them legibly on paper and hand to him, or place on the pulpit.*

**Best Wishes and Birthday Blessings.** March 29: Bettye Seaman, Jacob Vegara; March 30: Donna Andrews; March 31: Earnest Deavenport, Kathy Ward, Kevin Wilcox; April 1: Rad Moeller; April 2: Jane Stephenson; April 3: Betty Scipione, Cody Shook, Deka Tate; April 4: Caitlin Vernon.